

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 15777 171607Z
ACTION ABF-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 A-01 MMO-01 SIG-03
SSO-00 /034 W
-----124887 171610Z /44
O 171559Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8360

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 15777

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AGAO, ELTN, BBSR
SUBJECT: GAO STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL URBAN RAILCAR
MARKET

REF: A) STATE 203417, B) STATE 190945, C) BRUSSELS 15152,
D) STATE 207030

1. THE EMBASSY DOES NOT REPEAT NOT ACQUIESCE IN THE
PROPOSED GAO STUDY AT THE PROPOSED TIME.
2. THE EMBASSY FURTHER REQUESTS THE DEPARTMENT TO CALL
UPON GAO TO INSTRUCT ITS FIELD OFFICE TO CEASE FORTHWITH
ATTEMPTING TO MAKE APPOINTS WITH GOB AGENCIES UNTIL
SUCH TIME AS THE EMBASSY GIVES ITS ASSENT TO THIS OR ANY
OTHER PROPOSED GAO PROJECT.
3. THE RECENT PROLIFERATION OF GAO INQUIRIES INTO BELGIAN
AFFAIRS HAS UNDULY BURDENED THE EMBASSY AND HAS COMMENCED
ADVERSELY TO AFFECT USG RELATIONS WITH BELGIUM. THE
PROPOSED GAO REVIEW OF "THE INCREASING RELIANCE OF U.S.
MANUFACTURERS ON FOREIGN PROCESSED MATERIALS" (REF B)
WILL ENGAGE THE LIMITED RESOURCES OF THE EMBASSY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 15777 171607Z

ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION DURING A SEASONAL BUSY
PERIOD. WE HAVE YET TO RECEIVE A REPLY TO OUR SUGGESTION
(REF C) ON HOW TO HANDLE THIS STUDY WITH MINIMAL EFFECT
ON LOCAL SENSITIVITIES.

4. ANOTHER GAO STUDY, LIKEWISE ENGAGING THE RESOURCES
OF THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION AT VIRTUALLY THE SAME

TIME, AND LIKEWISE POTENTIALLY THREATENING TO BELGIAN INTERESTS, IS EXCESSIVE. THE EMBASSY IS PREPARED TO DO A STANDARD COMMERCIAL STUDY OF THE URBAN RAILCAR MARKET WHICH WOULD PROVIDE GAO THE ESSENTIAL DATA IT NEEDS, BUT IT CANNOT DETACH AN ECOM OFFICER FOR UP TO TEN DAYS IN SEPTEMBER TO CONTROL THE GAO STUDY.

5. REGARDING THE REQUEST SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPH TWO ABOVE, THE EMBASSY RECEIVED TODAY AN ORAL COMPLAINT FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REGARDING THE URBAN RAILCAR STUDY THAT GAO HAS ALREADY PRESUMED TO INITIATE. WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THE EMBASSY, GAO STAFF PERSONNEL HAVE SOUGHT APPOINTMENTS WITH VARIOUS BELGIAN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE ENTITIES, WHO UNDERSTAND THAT, IN THE WORDS OF AN MFA OFFICIAL, THE INQUIRY IS TO LOOK INTO "UNFAIR TRADE ACTIVITIES IN BELGIUM IN PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF URBAN RAILCARS."

6. THIS IS THE SECOND INSTANCE IN RECENT MONTHS OF GAO UNDERTAKING ACTIVITIES IN BELGIUM WITHOUT OBTAINING PRIOR EMBASSY ASSENT. THE EMBASSY WILL BE RESPONDING IN DUE COURSE TO THE DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION AND COMMENT ON RECENT GAO ACTIVITY ABROAD (REF D). THIS MESSAGE IS ONLY CONCERNED WITH BRINGING UNDER CONTROL WHAT IS THREATENING TO BECOME A RUNAWAY SITUATION IN BELGIUM. OLSEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MARKETS, RAIL TRANSPORTATION, URBAN TRANSPORTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BRUSSE15777
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780336-0822
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780850/aaaabptg.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8f007061-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ABF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 78 STATE 203417, 78 STATE 190945, 78 BRUSSELS 15152
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1701825
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GAO STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL URBAN RAILCAR MARKET
TAGS: AGAO, ELTN, BBSR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8f007061-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014